



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

32 CFR Part 706

Certifications and Exemptions Under the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DoD.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy (DoN) is amending its certifications and exemptions under the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (72 COLREGS), to reflect that the Deputy Assistant Judge Advocate General (DAJAG) (Admiralty and Maritime Law) has determined that USS AMERICA (LHA 6) is a vessel of the Navy which, due to its special construction and purpose, cannot fully comply with certain provisions of the 72 COLREGS without interfering with its special function as a naval ship. The intended effect of this rule is to warn mariners

in waters where 72 COLREGS apply.

DATES: This rule is effective [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION
IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] and is applicable beginning
September 19, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant Jocelyn
Loftus-Williams, JAGC, U.S. Navy, Admiralty Attorney,
(Admiralty and Maritime Law), Office of the Judge Advocate
General, Department of the Navy, 1322 Patterson Ave., SE,
Suite 3000, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066, telephone
202-685-5040.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the authority
granted in 33 U.S.C. 1605, the DoN amends 32 CFR Part 706.

This amendment provides notice that the DAJAG
(Admiralty and Maritime Law), under authority delegated by
the Secretary of the Navy, has certified that USS AMERICA
(LHA 6) is a vessel of the Navy which, due to its special
construction and purpose, cannot fully comply with the
following specific provisions of 72 COLREGS without
interfering with its special function as a naval ship:
Annex I, paragraph 3(a) pertaining to the horizontal

distance between the forward and aft masthead lights; Rule 21(a) pertaining to placement of masthead lights over the fore and aft centerline of the vessel; Annex I, paragraph 2(g) pertaining to the placement of sidelights above the hull of the vessel; and Annex I paragraph 3(b) pertaining to the location of fixture of side lights. The DAJAG (Admiralty and Maritime Law) has also certified that the lights involved are located in closest possible compliance with the applicable 72 COLREGS requirements.

Moreover, it has been determined, in accordance with 32 CFR Parts 296 and 701, that publication of this amendment for public comment prior to adoption is impracticable, unnecessary, and contrary to public interest since it is based on technical findings that the placement of lights on this vessel in a manner differently from that prescribed herein will adversely affect the vessel's ability to perform its military functions.

List of Subjects in 32 CFR Part 706

Marine safety, Navigation (water), and Vessels.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, amend part

706 of title 32 of the CFR as follows:

PART 706--CERTIFICATIONS AND EXEMPTIONS UNDER THE
INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS FOR PREVENTING COLLISIONS AT SEA,
1972

1. The authority citation for part 706 continues to
read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1605.

2. Section 706.2 is amended as follows:

A. In Table Two by adding, in alpha numerical order,
by vessel number, an entry for USS AMERICA (LHA 6) ; and

B. In Table Five by adding, in alpha numerical order,
by vessel number, an entry for USS AMERICA (LHA 6).

§ 706.2 Certifications of the Secretary of the Navy under
Executive Order 11964 and 33 U.S.C. 1605.

TABLE TWO

Vessel	Number	Masthead lights, distance to stbd of keel in meters; Rule 21(a)	Forward anchor light, distance below flight dk in meters; § 2(K), Annex I	Forward anchor light, number of; Rule 30(a) (i)	AFT anchor light, distance below flight dk in meters; Rule 21(e), Rule 30(a)(ii)	AFT anchor light, number of; Rule 30(a) (ii)	Side lights, distance below flight dk in meters; § 2(g), Annex I	Side lights, distance forward of forward masthead light in meters; § 3(b), Annex I	Side lights, distance inboard of ship's sides in meters; § 3(b), Annex I
* * * * * USS AMERICA * * * * *	LHA 6	9.00	----	----	----	----	2.8	89.3	----

TABLE FIVE

Vessel	No.	Masthead lights not over all other lights and obstructions. annex I, sec. 2(f)	Forward masthead light not in forward quarter of ship. annex I, sec. 3(a)	After masthead light less than ½ ship's length aft of forward masthead light. annex I, sec. 3(a)	Percentage horizontal separation attained
***** USS AMERICA *****	LHA 6	----	X	X	31.6

APPROVED: September 19, 2013.

A. B. FISCHER
 Captain, JAGC, U.S. Navy
 Deputy Assistant Judge Advocate
 General (Admiralty and Maritime Law)

Dated: September 25, 2013.

P. A. RICHELMI
Lieutenant
Office of the Judge Advocate General
U.S. Navy
Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer

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